

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS

ORDER

WILKERSON, Magistrate Judge:

Now pending before the Court is the “motion to change Magistrate Judge Assignment” filed by Plaintiffs on August 14, 2017 (Doc. 19). The Motion is **GRANTED IN PART**.

As explained to Plaintiffs at the Scheduling Conference, this matter is assigned to both a District Court Judge (J. Phil Gilbert) and a Magistrate Judge (the undersigned). There has been no “reassignment” of Judges. Plaintiffs have informed the Court that it is difficult for them to travel to the East St. Louis Courthouse for hearings because of their health, their business, and because they have minor children. They indicate that it is easier to travel to the Benton Courthouse because it is closer to their home. A matter may be transferred, at the discretion of the Court, for the convenience of parties and in the interests of justice. 28 U.S.C. § 1404(a) and (b). It would be more convenient for Plaintiffs, who are proceeding *pro se*, to litigate this matter closer to their home. Accordingly, the Clerk of Court is **DIRECTED** to transfer this matter to a Magistrate Judge sitting in Benton, Illinois.

DATED: September 5, 2017

A handwritten signature of "Donald Wilkerson" is written in blue ink across the center of the official seal of the United States District Court for the Southern District of Illinois. The seal is circular with "UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT" at the top and "SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS" at the bottom. In the center is a stylized eagle with wings spread, holding a shield with vertical stripes, and a laurel wreath at its base.

DONALD G. WILKERSON
United States Magistrate Judge